

From: Mark Dalton
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/6/01 2:03pm
Subject: Disappointment about the 'settlement'

I understand the country is going through a lot of struggles.

However, to not punish a monopolistic company for cheating consumers, businesses, government is irresponsible and showing the lack of justice and shows our current government will allow large business or monopolies to use power and money to change our governmental decisions. (Versus we the people).

Not only were they not punished, but they were given a potential to get out of this with a even larger monopoly, but getting into the school systems.

I understand the schools have a "choice" influenced by what they can get from Microsoft.

The \$1 billion is only a small part of what they have previously taken from people.

They still have monopolistic licenses in place that don't allow dual boot machines to be sold by various manufactures.

They have large issues with the obvious lack of security in their software. All you need to do is think 'e-mail virus' and that is the same as saying a Microsoft Bug.. since it is a VERY old concept that was explained is bad programming, back before Microsoft even understood the internet.

Now they are supporting more issues that don't allow Open Standards or even what most used to call standards. (Standards used to be the protocol that was available to all, everyone had input on, and there was basically one standard. Versus the current model with Microsoft and the card manufacturers). It has held up technology, versus expanded it. They are supporting a effort that could reduce further competition by making it imposible to report bugs, security flaws, etc. so that we can get things fixed in a timely manner. And even worse is the discussions of laws that would make it very difficult to continue with innovative projects like GNU and the OpenSource world in general.

No Microsoft did a nice job on their MSOffice (minus the internet explorer).

And now with XP and MS.NET, I have further concerns.

I hope something can be done in the future about past, present and future monopoly actions by Microsoft and other companies that use unethical tactics to get to a control position, then use their control and money to control government as well as, media.

MS owns NBC. I believe they (or VPs/CEO) bought large parts of Apple so they would not go under just before the law suit went to the courts.

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